apicibus et ceterarum marginibus angustis rufescentibus; subtus ferruginea, lateraliter obscurior, in ventre crissoque magis cinnamomea; subalaribus et remigum marginibus internis ventri concoloribus; rostro nigricanti-plumbeo, mandibula inferiore ad basin flavicante; pedibus pallide fuscis: long. tota 5·5, alæ 25, caudæ 2·3, rostri a rictu 1·1.

Hab. in Colombia int., Æquatoria, et Peruvia orientali.

Mus. P. L. S. et S.-G.

I base this species upon three examples obtained by Mr. C. Buckley at Sarayacu, in Ecuador. But Bogota skins and specimens which I have examined from several localities on the Upper Amazons seem to be identical.

N. brunnea will be figured in the forthcoming part of my 'Monograph of the Jacamars and Puff-birds,' which I am hoping shortly to bring to a conclusion.

LI.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 495.]

94. *Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club.*

[Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club; a Quarterly Journal of Ornithology, vol. vi. no. 3, July 1881. Cambridge, Mass.]

Besides the usual communications of more or less local interest, the last Bulletin contains the results of Mr. Cory's expedition to Hayti, in two articles*. The new species of birds discovered are described as *Picumnus lawrencii, Phœnicophilus dominicensis, Parra violacea,* and *Myiadestes montanus.* Of these the *Picumnus* is of special interest, as the form is quite new to the Antillean avifauna. The total number of birds given in the second article as obtained or observed is 65, which includes "nearly all the species previously recorded from Hayti and Santo Domingo, besides a number new to the Island." An outline map, showing the localities visited, which are near Port au Prince, at the western extremity of Haiti, is given, and short notes to each species. We trust, however, that Mr. Cory will hereafter give us a more extended treatise on the subject.

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* (1) Descriptions of Four New Species of Haitian Birds: p. 129.
(2) List of the Birds of Haiti, taken in different parts of the Island between January 1 and March 12, 1881: p. 151.

95. *Feilden on the Birds of Novaya Zemlya.*

[A Polar Reconnaissance, being the Voyage of the 'Isbjorn' to Novaya Zemlya in 1879. By Albert H. Markham, F.R.G.S. London: C. Kegan Paul & Co., 1881. Note on the Birds collected by Captain A. H. Markham, R.N. By Captain H. W. Feilden, F.G.S., C.M.Z.S.]

Captain Feilden contributes to Capt. Markham's interesting narrative of his 'Polar Reconnaissance' of 1879 an account of the ornithological collection, "consisting of some sixty well-preserved bird's skins, comprising 26 different species." Notes on their distribution, derived from observations made by Capt. Markham, are added. Captain Feilden then gives a very useful account of our previous authorities on the Birds of Novaya Zemlya, and concludes with "A list of the Avifauna of Novaya Zemlya and Waigats," deduced from these sources and from Capt. Markham's collection.

The list comprehends 45 species—amongst which are six Passeres—three of which (*Anthus cervinus, Plectrophanes nivalis,* and *Otocorys alpestris*) appear to be regular visitants, and three (*Ruticilla wolfi, Plectrophanes lapponica,* and *Hirundo rustica*) occasional stragglers.

96. *Krukenberg on the Colouring-matter of Feathers.*

[Die Farbstoffe der Federn. Von Dr. C. F. W. Krukenberg. Vergleichend-physiologische Studien, Heidelberg, Abth. v.]

In this first communication on the colouring-matters of feathers, Dr. Krukenberg describes the chemical reactions and spectroscopic characters of three different substances (Turacin, Zoonerythrin, and Zoofuloin) present in the red and yellow feathers of birds. Turacin, as yet found only in the feathers of the Musophagidæ, particularly in the red feathers of the wing, gives two different absorption-spectra, according to whether it is in solution or not—a very unusual circumstance with organic pigments. A solution-spectrum has two absorption-bands, nearly coinciding in position with those of oxyhæmoglobin, from which, however, Turacin differs greatly in chemical composition, containing, as is well known, copper in abundance. Zoonerythrin gives a continuous spectrum, Zoofuloin one with two absorption-bands, which, however, are not those of Turacin. Attempts to extract blue, violet, and green pigments from feathers so coloured have as yet been unsuccessful; and these colours may therefore depend upon optical, and not chemical, causes.

97. *Ridgway on an American Duck.*

[On a Duck new to the North American Fauna. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1881, p. 22.]

The Duck in question is *Fuligula rufina,* of which an example was obtained in Fulton Market, New York, in February 1862, "supposed to have been shot on Long Island Sound." It was at that time believed to be a hybrid, but on further examination turns out to be an immature male of *Fuligula rufina.*

98. *Ridgway on* Amazilia yucatanensis.

[On *Amazilia yucatanensis* (Cabot) and *A. cerviniventris,* Gould. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1881, p. 25.]

In this Journal (1879, p. 208) we ventured to dissent from Mr. Elliot's view of referring *Amazilia yucatanensis* (Cabot) to *A. cerviniventris,* and suggested a reexamination of the question. This Mr. Ridgway has now undertaken by comparing Cabot's type with Texan specimens of *A. cerviniventris.* The result arrived at is that the species are distinct; and comparative diagnoses are given.

99. *St. John's 'Wild Coasts of Nipon.'*

[Notes and Sketches from the Wild Coasts of Nipon, with chapters on cruising after pirates in Chinese waters. By Captain H. C. St. John, R.N. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1880.]

Captain St. John's account of his sporting and collecting adventures on the Japanese coasts will be read with great interest. Many good notes on birds are interspersed in the text, see *e.g.* pp. 7, 97, and 146.

An Appendix contains a reprint of the list of birds of Japan, given in the 'Fauna Japonica,' Capt. St. John being unacquainted with more recent works on the same subject, and a list of birds *not* named in the previous list, but collected by himself.

100. *Sclater's 'Puff-birds and Jacamars.'*

Part V. of this work (July 1881) contains figures of the following species of Bucconidæ :—

Bucco radiatus.
Malacoptila fusca.
Malacoptila rufa.
Malacoptila torquata.
Malacoptila panamensis.
Malacoptila inornata.
Malacoptila fulvigularis.
Malacoptila substriata.
Micromonacha lanceolata.

Part VI., announced to appear in November, will contain the whole of the remaining illustrations.

101. *Stolzmann on* Steatornis caripensis.

[Observations sur le *Steatornis* péruvien. Extrait d'une lettre adressée par M. Jean Stolzmann a M. L. Taczanowski. Bull. Soc. Zool. de France, 1881.]

M. Taczanowski communicates M. Stolzmann's observations on *Steatornis*, extracted from his letters. M. Stolzmann met with this wonderful bird in two localities in Peru—Ninabamba in the Department of Caxamarca, and Huabamba in the Department of Amazonas,—and, besides visiting the caves where it passes the day, also observed it in the forests at night. Here it resorts to the trees of various species of *Nectandra*, and plucks their fruits, fluttering over the ends of the branches. The hard seeds of these fruits, as observed by M. Stolzmann in a living specimen of *Steatornis*, are rejected by the mouth.

102. *Shufeldt on the Osteology of* Speotyto *and* Eremophila.

[Osteology of *Speotyto cunicularia*, var. *hypogæa*, and of *Eremophila alpestris*. By R. W. Shufeldt, Bull. U.S. Geol. and Geogr. Surv. vol. vi. no. 1.]

Mr. R. W. Shufeldt, First Lieutenant and Assistant-

Surgeon U.S. Army, describes at full length the various bones which are comprised in the skeleton of these two birds. Mr. Shufeldt's memoir would, perhaps, have been of greater general use if further points of comparison between the two forms and their allies had been given. Four well-drawn plates illustrate the memoir.

LII.—*Letters, Announcements, &c.*

We have received the following letters addressed to the Editors of 'The Ibis':—

British Museum, June 25th, 1881.

Sirs,—The name which I proposed in 'The Ibis' for the beautiful *Laniarius nigrithorax* of the Gold Coast being a *vox hybrida*, which I ought to have known better than to compound, I am anxious to change it into a more classically correct one, and propose to alter it into *melanothorax*.

A similar instance occurs in *Cinclosoma castaneothorax* of Gould, which ought to be altered, and which I suggest should henceforth be called *erythrothorax*.

I am, &c.,
R. Bowdler Sharpe.

Turin, Zoological Museum.
June 30th, 1881.

Sirs,—In the April number of 'The Ibis' for this year (pp. 258–267) are some "Notes on some Hawks of the Subgenera *Cooperastur* and *Urospizias*," by Mr. Gurney, concerning which I have to offer a few remarks.

Mr. Gurney describes and figures a young specimen, marked as male by the collector, of *Urospizias albigularis*: this is described as smaller than the type specimen in the British Museum, and more so than the type specimen of *U. meyerianus* (Sharpe), which is the largest of the three; so that Mr. Gurney is ready to conclude "that the still larger *U. meyerianus* (Sharpe) is not" (as supposed by me) "the female